



Patricia Lashway, Assistant Secretary
Washington State Department of Social & Health Services
Administration and External Relations



Meet Patricia Lashway

Patricia Lashway has served in a variety of positions with the Department of Social and Health Services, beginning in 1988 in the Aging and Disability Services Administration. She came to state service from legal services and has spent her career, including overseas duty as a Peace Corps volunteer, working for expanded supports and services for low-income and vulnerable people of all ages and walks of life. Pat is a lifelong student of government and served as the DSHS Senior Director of Government Relations until being appointed to her current post in February 2013.

As Assistant Secretary for Administration and External Relations, Pat has responsibility for management of daily operations across the Department. She leads the Information Systems Services, Human Resources, Public Affairs, Planning and Performance, Diversity and Inclusion, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Indian Policy, and Government Relations programs.

Pat was with the Aging and Disability Services Administration for almost nine years as the Director of Residential Care Services. During that time, the program for which she was the chief licensing and regulatory officer grew to 3,000 facilities, including nursing homes, adult family homes, boarding homes and community supported living services involving 55,000 residents each day. Her team was responsible for development of a nationally recognized statewide complaint resolution and investigation unit, serving all long-term care consumers and their families.

Pat received a bachelor's degree from the University of Oregon, a juris doctorate from Seattle University and is a member of the Washington State Bar Association.